

Home Education Advisory Council Minutes—September 13, 2011

Chairman Abbey Lawrence called the regular meeting of the Home Education Advisory Council to order at 3:35 p.m. in room 15 of Londergan Hall in Concord, New Hampshire.

Members Present: Representative Ralph Boehm, Marc Boyd, Michael Benik, Michael Compitello, Keith Pfeifer, Chris Hamilton, Abbey Lawrence, Representative Joe Pitre, Roberta Tenney, and Dennis Wyman.

Visitors present: Michael Faiella, Jane Grady, and Kara Swedlow

Minutes: The Council approved the June 14, 2011 meeting minutes by general consent.

Organization of Council: Keith Pfeifer nominated Abbey Lawrence as HEAC Chairman. Marc Boyd nominated Chris Hamilton as HEAC Vice-Chairman. The Council voted unanimously to elect Abbey Lawrence as HEAC Chairman and Chris Hamilton as Vice-Chairman for the 2011-2012 term.

Announcements: Abbey announced that the Council would meet in room 12 for the October meeting.

Chairman's Report: The N.H. School Boards Association will nominate Barrett Christina to serve on the Council. Abbey had several conversations in July and August with members of the rules revision subcommittee and Mary Mayo about the rules revision status and process.

Rules Subcommittee Report: Chris Hamilton distributed suggested changes to the rules. Dennis Wyman moved to accept the revisions to Ed. 315 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Department of Education Report: The department has received some phone calls requesting homeschooling and notification information.

Legislative Report:

- Representative Boehm reported that House Education subcommittee for HB 301, HB 545, and HB 595 had voted ITL on HB 301 and HB 595, and OTP-A on HB 545. The sense of the subcommittee is for an amendment to:
 - mandate Council approval on administrative rules prior to filing with JLCAR and submitted for SBE review and approval;
 - make legislative Council members non-voting members; and
 - require one-time notification for each homeschooling program (rather than annual).

Council members discussed also including the preamble of HB 301 as part of an amendment to HB 545; particularly noting, however, that the word “duty” should be removed.

Representative Boehm encouraged Council members to contact him with input. Wednesday, November 2 is the last day to report retained bills.

- Chris distributed a written legislative report.

New Business:

Kara Swedlow, Destination ImagiNation affiliate director, made a presentation to the Council about Destination ImagiNation and invited homeschoolers to participate in the program.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Grady
(substituting for Dennis Wyman)